

S. 1000

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. DESIGNATION OF ROBERT J. DOLE UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE.

The United States courthouse at 500 State Avenue in Kansas City, Kansas, shall be known and designated as the "Robert J. Dole United States Courthouse".

SEC. 2. REFERENCES.

Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the United States courthouse referred to in section 1 shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Robert J. Dole United States Courthouse".

LLOYD D. GEORGE U.S. COURTHOUSE

The bill (S. 1043) to designate the U.S. courthouse under construction at the corner of Las Vegas Boulevard and Clark Avenue in Las Vegas, NV, as the "Lloyd D. George U.S. Courthouse," was considered, ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, read the third time, and passed; as follows:

S. 1043

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. DESIGNATION OF LLOYD D. GEORGE UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE.

The United States courthouse under construction at the corner of Las Vegas Boulevard and Clark Avenue in Las Vegas, Nevada, shall be known and designated as the "Lloyd D. George United States Courthouse".

SEC. 2. REFERENCES.

Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the United States courthouse referred to in section 1 shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Lloyd D. George United States Courthouse".

REGARDING MEXICO'S IMPOSITION OF ANTIDUMPING DUTIES ON UNITED STATES HIGH-FRUCTOSE CORN SYRUP

Mr. HELMS. Now, Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Senate Concurrent Resolution 43 submitted earlier today by Senators GRASSLEY, LUGAR, and HARKIN.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 43) urging the United States Trade Representative immediately to take all appropriate action with regard to Mexico's imposition of antidumping duties on United States high fructose corn syrup.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the concurrent resolution?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the concurrent resolution.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, today I am offering this resolution with my distinguished colleagues, the chairman and ranking member of the Senate Agriculture Committee, Sen-

ators LUGAR and HARKIN. The resolution addresses an antidumping investigation being conducted by the Government of Mexico, on the import of high-fructose syrup [HFCS] from the United States.

Mr. President, I have often come to the Senate floor to discuss the importance of international trade to our agricultural economy. American farmers have become more reliant on global markets for their income. The U.S. Department of Agriculture estimates that 31 percent of farmers' income will be derived from foreign markets by the end of the decade.

Because American farmers are the most efficient in the world we should not be frightened by this trend. But we must be more vigilant than ever when it comes to eliminating foreign trade barriers.

Both the North American Free Trade Agreement [NAFTA] and the Uruguay Round Agreement of GATT were successful for American farmers. They served to reduce or eliminate barriers to trade in agriculture products to a greater extent than any prior trade agreement. The implementation and enforcement of these agreements will be crucial to American farmers.

That is why the recent actions of the Mexican Government are so disturbing. The Mexican Government has imposed unreasonably high, preliminary tariffs on imports of HFCS from the United States. These tariffs are far in excess of what was negotiated under NAFTA. The justification for these tariffs is the antidumping action filed by the Mexican sugar industry.

I and my colleagues are very concerned with the propriety of this action. There have been questions raised as to whether the action meets the standards set forth in the World Trade Organization Agreement on Antidumping. I will submit for the Record a letter from the Deputy U.S. Trade Representative, Ambassador Jeff Lang, that outlines these serious concerns.

The resolution we introduced today is very simple. It says that if the antidumping action has not been conducted in accordance with WTO requirements, it should be terminated immediately. And all tariffs that have been imposed as a result of the action should be removed immediately.

If the Mexican Government refuses to do this, the United States Trade Representative is directed to request consultations with the Mexican Government, under the dispute settlement provisions of the WTO. This action will trigger a resolution of this dispute according to WTO procedures.

Finally, if the Mexican Government fails to accept our request for consultations, Congress directs the USTR to take any and all applicable actions under United States trade law.

Mr. President, I am a firm believer in free and open trade. It is never productive to engage in a trade war with one of our largest and most loyal trading partners. And that is certainly not the intent of this resolution.

However in order to have fair trade, we must insist that our trading partners live up to the obligations set forth in our trade agreements. This is vital to facilitating the free trade that will raise the standard of living for workers and consumers worldwide.

I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the letter I referred to be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the letter was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT,
Washington, DC, June 4, 1997.

Alvaro Baillet,
Jefe De La Unidad, Secretaria de Comercio y Fomento Industrial, Av. Insurgentes Sur 1940 PISO II, Col. Florida, C.P. 01030 Mexico, D.F.

DEAR MR. BAILLET: The United States has recently been contacted by American producers of High Fructose Corn Syrup (HFCS) regarding the initiation of an antidumping investigation concerning their exports of HFCS to Mexico. Our producers are concerned that the applicable like product in the investigation is HFCS, that the investigation was initiated without the support of the Mexican producers of that like product, and that certain information about the Mexican producers of HFCS known to the Mexican authorities was not considered in the initiation notice.

We have reviewed information that indicates that HFCS was produced in Mexico during the 1996 period of investigation. We further understand that this information was available to SECOFI and the Mexican sugar chamber that submitted the application for this antidumping investigation prior to SECOFI's initiation of the investigation. The domestic producers of the like product on whose behalf the antidumping application was filed consequently would normally have included any such Mexican producers of HFCS. SECOFI's initiation notice, however, does not reference these producers. It merely states, without support, that HFCS is not produced in Mexico.

An investigation into allegations of dumping can be extremely time consuming, expensive and have commercial consequences even before a preliminary or definitive measure is in place. For this reason, and because the Antidumping Agreement is explicit about the need for the authorities to examine the accuracy and adequacy of the evidence provided in the application, including that pertinent to the industry support needed for initiation, we would appreciate your attention to this matter in time to minimize any unnecessary impediment to U.S. exports of HFCS.

Sincerely Yours,

JEFFREY LANG,
Deputy United States Trade Representative.

Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, in my home State of Indiana, corn refining adds substantially to the value of our corn crop. On average, Indiana produces 800 million bushels of corn annually. It is estimated that corn refining—primarily through the production of high-fructose corn syrup—adds about \$200 million to the value of Indiana's corn crop. In addition to enhancing the value of our corn crop, corn refining results in the direct employment of approximately 1,700 Hoosiers with an estimated payroll of over \$70 million.

It is for the above reasons that I join Senators GRASSLEY, HARKIN, DASCHLE,